



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 16, 2013

MEDIA CONTACT: Adam Baker
Communications Director - Department of Code Enforcement
(317) 327-3972; adam.baker@indy.gov

LARGEST HOTEL SWEEP EVER NETS TWO ARRESTS AND 164 VIOLATIONS

INDIANAPOLIS – The Department of Code Enforcement, along with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD), the Wayne Township Fire Department, the Pike Township Fire Department and the Marion County Public Health Department recently partnered for Indianapolis' largest hotel sweep ever conducted, as part of an ongoing effort to combat nuisance properties.

"Businesses have a responsibility to provide a clean and safe environment for their guests and we will continue to hold negligent property owners responsible for not maintaining livable conditions," said DCE Director Rick Powers. "I want to personally thank Public Safety for their collaboration and involvement in making this sweep a success."

Using crime-tracking and licensing data, 18 hotels were identified for the sweep. During the sweep, IMPD crosschecked hotel registries against the City's warrant database. Participating agencies also inspected rooms, common areas, and the overall hotel grounds.

Participating agencies cited 164 code and health violations ranging from missing smoke detectors to bed bug infestations. IMPD arrested one person on an outstanding warrant in a prior prostitution case and arrested a second person for possession and distribution of marijuana.

"The continued success of these operations is made possible by the growing partnership between the Department of Public Safety and Code Enforcement," said Public Safety Director Troy Riggs. "It is evident our efforts are having a positive effect on the quality of life for residents and visitors of Indianapolis."

"This is the largest multi-agency hotel sweep ever had in Indianapolis and I commend the hard work and dedication of every involved staff member and agency," said IMPD Chief Rick Hite.

A complete breakdown of hotels and violations is attached. For more information on DCE's nuisance abatement initiatives, please visit <http://www.indy.gov/eGov/City/DCE/Pages/NA.aspx>.

The mission of the Department of Code Enforcement (DCE) is to improve the quality of life in the City of Indianapolis through strategic application of civil code regulation; effective licensing, permitting, inspection, enforcement, and abatement practices; and local government oversight of property safety and maintenance, business, event, professional, and construction industries.